

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM OREGON HOUSE DELEGATION FISCAL YEAR 2010

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 20, 2009

PLEASE NOTE: As required by the House Appropriations Committee, all requests will be made public on the requesting Member's website.

1. Project Title:

Kids First-Phase II

2. Organization Name and address:

Marion County
P.O. Box 14500
Salem, OR 97309

3. Primary Contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number and email:

4. Project Location Address (if different from Organization):

N/A

5. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private, non-profit, or private for-profit entity. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)

Marion County has 20 cities, including the State Capital, Salem. It is the largest producer of agriculture among Oregon's 36 counties. Marion County's economy is also based on government, with 38 of the largest state agencies based here, and on education as the site of Willamette University, Chemeketa Community College, and Corban College. Located south of the Portland metropolitan area, Marion County stretches from the Willamette River to the Cascade Mountains encompassing nearly 1,200 square miles with a population of 306,665.

6. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)

Marion County's "Kids First" initiative targets resources to successful local programs and services primarily focused on children affected by methamphetamine addiction in "high-risk" families, with the goal of breaking the vicious cycle of intergenerational drug abuse, crime and family violence prevalent in Marion County. This comprehensive

approach has been designed by elected officials and community leaders as a way to fight the local meth crisis, which is having a devastating impact on the county's most innocent victims – children. The Kids First Initiative focuses on the three crucial areas of prevention, treatment and intervention.

PREVENTION –

Family Home Visitations

The prevention component of Marion County's Kids First initiative will be coordinated by Family Building Blocks (FBB), a Relief Nursery serving families throughout Marion County. FBB programs target families with young children, six weeks to five years old, whose families are at high-risk of abuse and neglect. FBB receives these referrals from social service and health providers and schools within the county. Once a family is enrolled in FBB, they receive child-centered services including therapeutic classes, family centered services, parent education and home visits.

The Kids First Initiative prevention component would allocate \$104,074 to enhance services for kids who are at high-risk for abuse or neglect due to their parents' substance abuse problems. Specifically, FBB would offer family home visitations to children and families in need of special care. Monthly home visits focus on home safety and meeting developmental milestones.

TREATMENT –

Marion County will expand the Youth and Family Treatment Court, which has two targeted populations: First, **Fostering Attachment Family Dependency Treatment Court** that focuses solely on parents who have methamphetamine addiction issues with young infants and preschool age children; and second, expand the **Juvenile Drug Court (STAR Court)** that works with 13-18 year old methamphetamine addicts on probation for nonviolent offenses.

INTERVENTION –

On most nights in Marion County 1,134 children will go to bed while their parent is in jail. Marion County plans to address this problem by:

- Fully implementing parenting class curricula provided by Pathfinders of Oregon, Inc. and developed by the Oregon Social Learning Center and Children's Justice Alliance. The evidence-based curriculum provided at Marion County Sheriff's Office Children of Incarceration Parents Initiative (MCSO CIPI) is a modified version of the original curricula provided in 11 of Oregon's 13 adult correctional institutions.
- Application of the URICA assessment tool and the addition of motivation, pre-cognitive and cognitive behavioral classes help to identify parents who are ready for the parenting program.

Marion County wants to continue the pilot project, **Center for Family Success**, in Salem that will strengthen family bonds and help reunify children with their parents who have been incarcerated. With a home-like environment and an array of services offered on site, the Center will work intensively with 60 parents who have been involved in the criminal justice system and their children. The program goals are to significantly *reduce adult recidivism* with the state and county corrections systems, significantly *increase family reunification*, and *augment social support systems* for parents and their children.

The Center for Family success will partner with local parent support programs and the County's **Reentry Initiative** – a partnership with Marion County Sheriff's Office, Chemeketa Community College, Marion County Housing Authority, City of Salem Housing Authority, and representatives from the faith, business, and non-profit communities.

The goal of this **Reentry Initiative** is to provide counseling, housing and employment services for 78 high to medium risk, recidivistic offenders –who have a history of methamphetamine abuse- that are transitioning back into the community. Participants will be adult parents on parole or probation, or subjects of the adult drug court. Six groups of 13 offenders will cycle through this 90-day program over a period of 18 months. A 13- bed facility will house participants.

Additionally, **Court Appointed Special Advocates** of Marion County ("MC CASA") is working to fulfill the state and federal statutory mandates of providing a CASA for every child in juvenile court jurisdiction for abuse and neglect.

CASAs are citizen volunteers who are appointed to a dependent child or family of children by the juvenile court judge. CASAs are made parties to the juvenile case; investigate the circumstances of the child's life; monitor the activities of system partners, and offer objective, written reports in court. The judge is thereby able to make a decision regarding the future of the child based on the most accurate and objective information possible.

Marion County has, on average, 1000 CASA-eligible kids in care each day, but there is no stable funding system available to recruit, train and manage the 300 volunteers necessary to serve them all. As a non-profit agency, MCCASA seeks grants, public and private donations, and corporate sponsorships to sustain the staff necessary to maintain and grow the program. At present, MC CASA has 2.5 FTE assisting 60 Advocates, who represent 167 children. MC CASA needs 300 Advocates, and 12 full time staff to manage the needs of today's dependent child population.

7. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

Yes

7a. If yes, please provide fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

\$380,098 in the Juvenile Justice account of the FY08 CJS bill and \$355,414 in the COPS Meth account of the FY08 CJS bill. \$400,000 is pending in the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations bill.

8. Federal agency and account from which funds are requested (Please be specific –e.g. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account):

Agency: Department of Justice
Account: COPS

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

Marion County has unique child welfare challenges not shared by other Oregon counties or across the nation.

The county, which is home to Oregon's second largest city (Salem), also houses five of the state's fourteen state correctional institutions within its borders. Often times when a parent is incarcerated at one of these facilities, the inmate's family will move to the area to be close to the incarcerated parent. Not surprisingly, many of these families bring with them intergenerational issues of drug abuse, criminal history, child abuse and poor parental attention and care.

The county also has a serious drug problem, particularly with methamphetamine abuse. For more than eight years, Marion County has been designated by the federal government as a "High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area" (HIDTA). Not surprisingly, drug abuse has been a major factor for those who cycle through the criminal justice system. County officials have spent the past several years enhancing the county's law enforcement capabilities to catch more criminals, especially those making and distributing methamphetamines and other drugs. The number of seized meth labs in the county is down considerably, a trend throughout the state, as a result of more sophisticated law enforcement and a new state law requiring a doctor's prescription for pseudoephedrine products.

However, Marion County's fundamental problem lies with the habitual offenders, many of whom have children who witness drug abuse and crime, and who are often victims of family violence. More than 750 children younger than five years old are in foster care in Marion County, mostly because they have been removed from homes where at least one parent abused drugs, in most cases methamphetamine. Evidence shows that these parents instill negative messages to their children about drug use, crime and violence in such a way that their kids know of no other life than one associated with the criminal justice system.

For instance, a recent survey of youth in the county detention facility found that 30 percent reported that at least one parent had been incarcerated or was currently in jail. Worse yet, 37 percent of the kids surveyed reported having used methamphetamines in the past.

It is the goal of local leaders to look beyond law enforcement, and consider innovative, evidence-based approaches to break the cycle of intergenerational drug abuse, crime and family violence. The Kids First Initiative is the first step in this effort.

10. Have you requested funding for this project from other Members of Congress? If so, who?

This request will also be submitted to Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden.

11. Funding Details:

a. Total project cost (all funding sources and all years):

\$904,114

b. Amount being requested for this project in Fiscal Year 2010:

\$600,000

c. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please provide specific dollar amount or percentage.)

Marion County and partners will contribute \$304,114 to the project.

d. Do you expect to request federal funding in future years for this project?

Future funds will be requested based on the funding received in FY10.

e. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project in FY 2010.

(e.g. salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

PREVENTION

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Description</u>
Home Visitations Specialists	85,550	2.0 FTE Home Visitation
Supervisor	9,405	.25% of Salary for
Curriculum	2,000	\$1,000 per Training
	4,369	Travel Mileage
	400	Family Assessment
	2,000	Computer Printer
	350	Cell Phones
	\$ 104,074	TOTAL

TREATMENT

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Description</u>
STAR Court	\$16,898	TOTAL Mental Health Treatment
Fostering Court	\$41,683	Vocational/Ed Connector
	22,202	Supp Svcs/ Childcare etc
	3,600	Valley Mental Health
	1,000	Computer
	1,000	Bus Tickets

2,500	Program Evaluator
\$71,985	TOTAL

INTERVENTION

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Description</u>
Children of Incarcerated Parents	\$68,040	\$17,010 per class x 4
	1,500	Materials & Services
	\$91,275	TOTAL

Center for Family Success	55,650	Program Director
	47,250	Case Manager
	5,200	Parent Support
	\$108,100	TOTAL

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Description</u>
Marion County Re-entry Initiative Manager	\$37,800	Transitional Housing Case
Manager	\$25,200	Transitional Housing Resident
Resident Manager	\$11,340	Transitional Housing Relief
Evaluation	\$28,224	Data Management/Outcome
	<u>\$ 40,104</u>	Counseling/Housing Classes
	\$ 142,668	TOTAL

CASA	\$20,000	TOTAL
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Grant Administration Costs (staff) (\$600,000 x 7%)	42,000
<u>Mandatory Travel (required by OJJDP)</u>	<u>3,000</u>

KIDS FIRST INITIATIVE GRAND TOTAL **\$600,000**

f. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project:

Marion County Children and Families Commission – Endorsed Kids First Initiative
 Randy Franke, Chair
 503.559.0872

Marion County Department of Children and Families
 Alison Kelley
 503.373.4368

g. Is this project scalable? (i.e. if partial funding is awarded, will the organization be able to use the funds in FY 2010?):

Yes